

**Aldersgate United Methodist Church**  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**December 24, 2021**  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 5:30pm

*\*Indicates the congregation stand if able*

**Invitation to Centering**                      Video                      Matthias Krier

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Welcoming the Christ Light & Lighting of Advent Candles**    Acolytes

**\*Call To Worship** (responsively)                      Chuck Kestle  
Rejoice, for God is with us – Emmanuel.  
**In the darkness of our world shines God’s holy light.**  
Now there is reason to hope, to love, to laugh and to live.  
**God is truly with us in the midst of all that is. We are not alone.**  
**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Opening Hymn # 234 UMH**                      O Come All Ye Faithful vs. 1,2,3,6

**Opening Prayer**                                              Chuck Kestle

**The Prophecy of the Messiah**                      Riley Lubick  
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; John 1:1-2, 4-5

**The Lighting of the Christ Candle** (Responsively)                      Ed Dobb

As we light the Christ Candle, we rejoice proclaiming:  
**Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor,**  
**Almighty God, Emmanuel, God with us!**

**The Coming of Jesus is Announced to Mary & Joseph**  
Matthew 1:18-25                                              Janet Fletcher-Rich  
**Anthem**                                                                      Chancel Choir

“Peace, Peace”  
Words by: Rick & Sylvia Powell    Arranged by: Fred Bock

**The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus** Chuck Kestle  
Luke 2:1-5

**Carol # 230 UMH** O Little Town of Bethlehem v. 1

**Jesus is Born** Riley Lubick  
Luke 2:6,7

**Carol # 217 UMH** Away in a Manger v. 1

**Special Music** Georgia Heaphy  
“Mary Did You Know?”  
Composed by: Mark Lowry & Buddy Greene

**Jesus’ Birth is Announced to the Shepherds** Janet Fletcher-Rich  
Luke 2:9-14

**Carol # 218 UMH** It Came Upon a Midnight Clear v. 1

**Carol # 245 UMH** The First Noel v. 1

**The Shepherds Find the Baby Jesus** Chuck Kestle  
Luke 2:15-18

**The Wise Men Bring Their Gifts to Jesus** Riley Lubick  
Matthew 2:1-11

**Carol # 245 UMH** The First Noel v. 3

**Offertory - We Offer Our Gifts to God** Chuck Kestle

**Offertory Response # 219 UMH** What Child is This v. 3

**Reflection** “Best Present Ever” Matthias Krier

**Prayer of Confession and Pardon** Chuck Kestle

**Response** (in unison)  
**The true light that enlightens all has come into the world. That light**

shines on in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to put it out. This is the good news: God has heard our confession. God has forgiven our sin. Thanks be to God.

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*United Methodists practice "open communion"  
where everyone is welcome to receive. Everyone!*

**Prayer After Communion**

**The Passing of the Light**                      O Magnum Mysterium

Recording by: Fred Crase

Composer: Morten Lauridsen

**Carol # 239 UMH**

Silent Night, Holy Night

*Please wait for ushers to dismiss you. Thank you.*

**Postlude**